The Full Experience

Reviewer's Guide to the New Xbox Experience

WELCOME TO THE NEW XBOX EXPERIENCE

Starting November 19, Every Experience is a Shared Experience

The New Xbox Experience is an innovative and groundbreaking operating system for Xbox 360 with an entirely new look and feel that makes it easier than ever for you to connect to friends and family, discover new content *together*, and explore the global community of Xbox LIVE.* With the introduction of the New Xbox Experience, Xbox 360 has evolved from a premiere gaming console to the ultimate entertainment destination, equally accessible to gamers playing "Gears of War" or families watching "Ratatouille." The social elements are greatly enhanced as well. Party games such as "Scene It? Box Office Smash" and "You're in the Movies" give friends and family the opportunity to get involved and share the New Xbox Experience, whether they're in the same room or on opposite sides of the globe. Expanding daily, Xbox LIVE Marketplace is more robust than ever. By joining forces with Netflix Inc., Xbox 360 now offers an additional 12,000 choices of movies and TV episodes — more than 25,000 pieces of video content total. This exciting Netflix feature is available at no additional cost to Xbox LIVE Gold members who are also Netflix subscribers. Xbox LIVE provides more entertainment than any device connected to your television.

Xbox 360 seamlessly integrates games, music, Xbox LIVE, movies and TV shows to offer something unique for each consumer. And starting at an estimated retail price of $199, Xbox 360 is the most affordable next-generation console on the market.**

** Hard drive is recommended for Xbox LIVE, and is required for some features. Xbox LIVE Gold membership and/or other fees may apply. Netflix sold separately. See xbox.com/live.*
*** Xbox 360 Arcade $199.99, Xbox 360 $299.99, Xbox 360 Elite $399.99.*

What do I need to do?

Just sit back and wait. For Xbox LIVE members, the upgrade will happen automatically on Nov. 19. Follow a few simple steps and you're done. And it's free — all you need to do is click on the download button. See http://www.xbox.com/update for system requirements and more information.

What do I get?

- Easy-to-navigate New Xbox Experience interface
- Access to a vast and diverse catalog of games and movies
- Expanded Xbox LIVE Marketplace, including Netflix, the world's largest online movie rental service*
- The ability to watch your favorite DVD movies
- Multiple ways to stay connected to friends and family through voice, text, instant messaging or video chat
- Wireless access to all the digital music and pictures on your PC**
- An infinitely customizable Avatar, your virtual identity online
- Xbox LIVE parties with up to seven friends (eight total) that allow you to share your favorite entertainment while staying connected across the entire New Xbox Experience
- A new Community Games Channel that allows users to create and sell their own content in the Marketplace
- The option to copy games to your hard drive, cutting load times considerably
- Gorgeous new Themes that allow you to customize and personalize your Xbox 360
- Rich cover art for game and movie titles
- Interactive party games for the whole family
- Improved Xbox 360 Guide Button functionality for faster navigation
- Alphabetical search capability for Xbox LIVE Marketplace

** U.S. customers only. Gold member subscription and Netflix Unlimited subscription required.*
*** With wireless adapter and PC running Windows XP or Windows Vista*

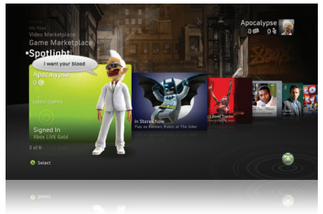
The Next Level of Personalization

Your Avatar

Immediately after downloading the New Xbox Experience, you'll be asked to create your Avatar, a virtual representation of yourself. Getting started is easy — click on Create Avatar and a group of 10 candidates in all shapes and sizes dash out and vie for your attention. Designed by Rare Studios Inc., these Avatars are expressive and diverse. If you don't see one that meets your personal requirements, hit the X button and another group scrambles in, eager to please you. This audition process is immensely gratifying. Once you've found your match, hit the A button to make it official. From here, you have the option to personalize your Avatar in a multitude of ways. Or if you're satisfied with the "floor model," you can get straight into exploring the interface.

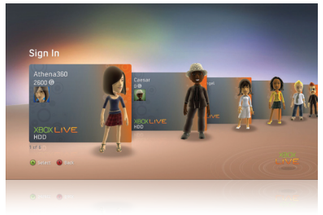
Customize Your Look

Time to move on to an impressive array of design options from standard features such as body type and hair color to more specific details such as gloves, hats and jewelry. You can even choose to have an entirely tattooed face. Another interesting option is the ability to put makeup on women and men. Customize to your heart's delight. You want a mustachioed skater with a pompadour rocking some cowboy boots? Check. Be adventurous — you can change your Avatar as often as you like. You can also create up to 21 outfits for your Avatar that properly represent whichever mood you happen to be in. Your Avatar has moods, too. Use the right stick to shake its head back and your Avatar gets a bit grumpy. A nod of the head turns that frown upside down.



Make Your Avatar Your Gamer Picture

To replace your old gamer picture (gamerpic) with a snapshot of your new Avatar, go to Gamer Picture in the Profile. You can adjust the framing of the camera as well as make your Avatar dance around with your right thumbstick. If you're attached to that old gamerpic, don't worry — you'll still be able to use it as your online identity.



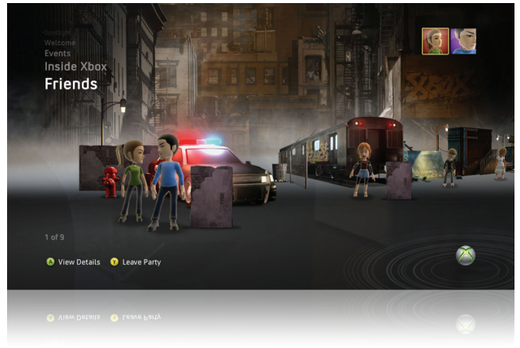
Switching Profiles

From the My Xbox Channel, you can create multiple Avatar profiles. This is especially helpful for roommates or families who might be sharing a console. Or people with split personalities. It's also a useful way for parents to confirm that their kids have the appropriate settings for their age group.

Choose Your Theme

Themes in the New Xbox Experience are more elaborate and detailed than ever. In addition to being a cool way to customize your Xbox 360, these new Themes can also be integrated into your Friends Channel as background environments. If you're a big "Halo" fan, we suggest the Warthog and some dead aliens. "Madden" enthusiasts might prefer the colors of their favorite football team.

Party Anywhere, Anytime



Stay connected to friends, family and the worldwide community across all games and channels with interactive parties for the New Xbox Experience. Chat before, during and after any game with up to eight friends (including you) on Xbox LIVE. Play games, share personal pictures, or find new and exciting activities to do *together* as you move through each possibility of the Xbox 360 landscape without borders or limitations. Every experience is a shared experience.

Invite Your Friends

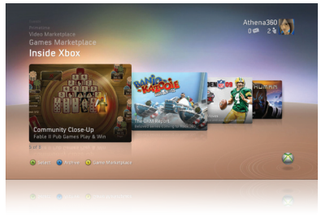
Start a party at the touch of a button. From your Friends Channel, you can tell which of your buddies is online by whether or not their Avatar is awake. Click on their gamer card and select Invite To Party to send an invitation. If someone's asleep it means they're offline but can jump right into the fun as soon as they wake up (sign in).

Your friends can invite people to the party, too. But if they're harshing your mellow, you've got the option to kick'em out. It is *your* party, after all.

Start a Photo Party

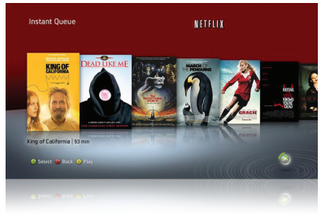
Download the photo party application on Xbox LIVE. Photo party is available only to LIVE Gold members. Upload your digital photos to your Xbox 360 using a wireless connection to your PC or by using a USB drive, CD or DVD. From the My Xbox Channel, start a party and invite up to seven friends. In minutes, you'll be sharing pictures on the big screen and chatting about them in real time. Multiple people can share photos at once. You can "bam" a specific photo, making it pop to the forefront. Friends can "bam" you back, creating a photo contest call-and-response, of sorts. Vote on whose sunset portraits are more stunning. Embarrass your brother in front of the entire family with candid shots from his bachelor party. Photo parties are a great way to stay close to those you love most.

It's not just for vacation photos, though. Hardcore gamers will be pleased to discover that they can use this app for a variety of functions, such as sharing screenshots of impressive frags or collectively geeking out over the new "Gears of War" maps.



Community Games Gives You the Chance to Shine

Community Games allows game developers to turn their hobbies into full-fledged careers. You can distribute games directly to millions of consumers over Xbox LIVE and potentially make lots of money. Consumers will be able to search, view and rate community games on Xbox.com, watch trailers, and even create a queue to download titles directly to their console. Not only is this a huge opportunity for aspiring developers, but gamers now have more video game options than ever.



Netflix Joins the Experience

Xbox LIVE Marketplace now offers instant streaming of movies from Netflix, the world's largest online movie rental service. The inclusion of Netflix brings an additional 12,000 movies and TV episodes that can be watched instantly on your TV through Xbox 360.* Video playback streams instantly at near-DVD quality, and users are able to rate movies they've watched via Xbox LIVE.

Xbox LIVE Gold members who are also Netflix subscribers can instantly watch blockbuster movies and hit TV shows at no additional cost. Silver members are only a few clicks away from a free trial membership. Use your Guide Button to find Netflix in Video Marketplace and get started.

** U.S. only, for LIVE Gold members with Netflix unlimited subscriptions only; includes Starz Play library of 2,500 movies, TV shows and concerts*

Xbox LIVE Marketplace

Xbox LIVE Marketplace is your online game and movie store, featuring more than 20,000 titles to browse, preview and purchase with Microsoft Points. As always, demos and trailers are free.

A new alphabetical search option makes it easy to find the best games, map packs, movies and more. Rich, detailed cover art makes shopping more enjoyable. Marketplace is now available on the Web at Xbox.com, so if you find an awesome "Rock Band" track on your lunch break at work, you can buy it online and it'll start downloading as soon as you get home and turn on your Xbox 360. You can access Marketplace from anywhere now.

YOU ASKED FOR IT, WE DID IT...

Core Updates

Microsoft's primary goal of the New Xbox Experience is to expand our audience while still remaining true to our devoted faithful. Xbox LIVE currently has 14 million members, with a new person joining every five seconds. Xbox wouldn't be where it is today without their support and continued contribution to this constantly evolving process. We listen to suggestions and value opinions. With that in mind, we implemented some changes to address specific needs and requests.

Go Anywhere with the Guide Button

Use your Guide Button to explore anywhere, anytime, in or out of games, across all channels. Here you'll see a sleek, streamlined version of the familiar blades interface you've grown to love. You can access your full games library at all times, in addition to Marketplace and your Friends Channel. No more B button mashing to back out to the Dashboard. Keep moving and discovering. Save time, save your thumbs.

The Guide Button is also a handy way to see your wireless controller's battery life, time of day, how many friends you have online, and your Achievements and Gamerscore.

Install Games to the Hard Drive

Instead of always playing from the disc, we made it possible for you to copy games to your hard drive. This will cut loading times 30 percent to 50 percent. That's huge. If you have a few favorites that you play daily, you can get into them faster than ever. And like everything else in the new interface, it's easy — pop your disc in, use your Guide Button to go to My Xbox Channel, select Install to Drive and you're done.

It's worth noting that saving to the hard drive is optional, not required. If you're just testing a game out, you can still play from the disc. Another key thing to mention: If you delete a game from your drive to create space, your game will still be saved for the future if you decide to play it again later. Any content you've purchased from Xbox LIVE can be deleted and downloaded again without charging you twice. For obvious reasons, we recommend that you get a hard drive to have sufficient room for your entire library.

Saving your games to the hard drive virtually eliminates the noise of your spinning game disc. For all you sound geeks out there, the actual volume level has been reduced by 7db. That means you can hear more subtle nuances in your games and music collections. It also enhances voice chat with friends on Xbox LIVE.

Ditch Your Zero Gamerscores

We know your Gamerscore is important to you. We want you to get Achievements, too. And just because you (or someone else who uses your console) played a game once and didn't like it doesn't mean it should be held against you for all eternity. So now we offer you the ability to ditch the zero score games from your history. Happy now? Good.

Browse the Marketplace Alphabetically

No more scrolling through endless titles to find the content you want. Using your Guide Button, go to Game Marketplace, scroll down to select All Games or All Videos and search alphabetically. If you don't know what you're looking for, browse by genre.

Keep Your Old Gamerpics and Themes

Don't worry — all the gamerpics and Themes that you downloaded will still work with the New Xbox Experience. We haven't taken anything away, just added features and made it more user-friendly. And if you think Avatars are too cutesy, try giving yours a Mohawk, fangs and a facial tattoo.

PLAY WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY

Timed with the release of the New Xbox Experience are a handful of lighthearted, interactive titles that introduce party gaming to family members and friends of all ages.

“Lips”

Released exclusively for the Xbox 360, “Lips” is the only singing game that offers wireless motion-sensitive microphones and the ability to sing from your own music collection. Keiichi Yano, celebrated developer behind “Gitaroo Man” and other acclaimed rhythm games, brings his latest vision of collaborative and social entertainment to the Xbox 360.

(Sing along to DRM-free music on select popular music players. Lyrics will not display on screen when singing to your music. To learn more, visit http://xbox.com/lips.)

“Scene It? Box Office Smash”

“Scene It? Box Office Smash” is a great way to entertain guests at your next social gathering. Up to four players or teams match wits in a trivia game featuring the movies they love. Complete with HD content, all-new questions and a variety of engaging puzzles, “Scene It” provides hours of entertainment as you challenge your friends and family to see whose movie knowledge reigns supreme. “Scene It” is also the first game on Xbox 360 to debut with the console’s new Avatars, personalized characters that respond to play and interact with each other. You can literally put yourself in the game. (Xbox LIVE Gold membership required for online multiplayer.)

“You’re in the Movies”

“You’re in the Movies”* combines cool with kitsch as you live out your dreams of becoming a scream queen, zombie or kung fu master. Using the Xbox LIVE Vision camera, players’ minigame actions are captured and placed into short, riotous films that put the spotlight on the unique and often dubious acting talents of friends and family. You also have the option of jumping into Director Mode by choosing music, recording voice over and editing the final cut.

** Published by Microsoft and Codemasters; developed by Zoe Mode*

THE NEW XBOX EXPERIENCE IS

YOU ME US WE • PLAY PARTY SHARE • HERE THERE • WHEREVER WHENEVER

EVERY EXPERIENCE IS A SHARED EXPERIENCE

Glossary

Achievements
Earn achievements online or offline. Achievements indicate progress, skill and accomplishment.

Avatar
Your virtual representation in the Xbox LIVE community.

Avoid Player
If someone gets on your nerves, you can designate them as an avoided player. This makes the gamer very unlikely to show up in matchmaking. How to do it: When submitting a review, you can choose to "avoid this player."

Channel
One of many menus containing content on Xbox 360. Inside each channel are multiple slots with pertinent info for games, movies, videos, etc.

Chat
A private voice chat. You can chat with one person at a time, but you can have multiple channels of chat open. Switch back and forth whenever you like.

Chat Invite
Set up a private chat with any gamer on your Friends List. Chat invites can be found in your Message Center.

Custom Match
Similar to OptiMatch on Xbox. Set up a game based on whatever criteria you decide: track, level, game type, etc.

Family Zone
The Xbox LIVE Gamer Zone that is appropriate for all members of the family.

Friend
A gamer you have added to your Friends List, either by sending or accepting a friend request.

Friends Channel
Where you can see which of your friends are online and what they're currently doing.

Friend Request
An invitation to make another gamer your friend. Send them or accept them.

Friends List
Your personal gaming posse of up to 100 gamers. This list can be edited and updated whenever you like.

Gamer Picture (Also Gamerpic)
The picture gamers choose to represent themselves. This picture will appear on your gamer card on Xbox LIVE and on Xbox.com.

Gamer Profile
Includes all the information found on a gamer card, and a list of all your achievements. The detailed resume of your gaming life.

Gamer Card
Includes a quick hit of information on a gamer: gamer picture, Gamerscore, reputation, Gamer Zone and motto. The business card of your gaming life.

Gamerscore
The cumulative score of all your Achievements. Each disc-based game is worth up to 1,000 points, while Xbox LIVE Arcade titles are worth up to 200 points. The higher you score, the more varied your gaming experience.

Gamertag
Your online gaming persona. Can be up to 15 characters long and is not case-sensitive.

Messages
All your communications to and from other gamers in the Xbox LIVE network.

Player Match
Matchmaking based on your gamer profile. If you choose a player match, you'll get paired against gamers with similar Gamer Zone, Gamerscore and reputation.

Preferred Player
If you play with a great gamer, you can designate that player as a preferred player. This makes that gamer more likely to show up in matchmaking. How to do it: When submitting a player review, you can choose to "prefer this player."

Recreation Zone
The Xbox LIVE Gamer Zone for both casual gamers and those who like hardcore games with a laid-back attitude.

Rep
See reputation.

Reputation
Your rating as a gamer, earned through feedback from other players. Great gamers with awesome feedback can have up to five stars.

Ring of Light
The green circle surrounding the power button on the Xbox 360. It lights up during the startup animation. The four quadrants of light show which controller is active.

Slot
A subset of a channel that features content available for download on Xbox LIVE.

Spotlight Channel
Highlights what's new and exciting in Xbox LIVE Marketplace.

TrueSkill
An Xbox LIVE matchmaking system that uses game input to compute a player's rank relative to particular games and game modes.

Underground Zone
The Xbox LIVE Gamer Zone for gamers who like their competition served up with a healthy dose of smack talk. Anything goes.

Xbox Guide
The always-accessible display that takes you to your Message Center, your music controls, Friends List and personal settings. Use it while you're playing a game and watching a movie — whenever.

Xbox Guide Button
The silver button in the center of an Xbox 360 Controller. Use this button to bring up the Xbox Guide.

Xbox LIVE Gamer Zone
Indicates your personal gaming style. Gamer Zones include Family, Pro, Recreation and Underground. You can change your Gamer Zone at any time.

XBOX 360